



SPRING PUBLIC MEETING

May 25, 2024 10:00 a.m. Tyrone Fire Dept.

Minutes

- **Welcome & Introduction of Board Members:** Jay White, President

All board members stood and introduced themselves.

Jay discussed the very warm winter, and warm waters, causing weed growth and normal fish turnover. Water is close to 70 degrees today. Curly leaf pondweed will die off in June. We only treat Eurasian Water Milfoil. A member asked how to tell the difference in the weed types. Google is a good source of photos. Jay also discussed the lake filling in from the bottom up.

Jay reminded members that board members work year-round, and with many different organizations, to make our lakes better. This year we are focusing on trying to build relationships with local organizations and individuals.

There is an individual at the boat launch checking boats. Hope is to limit the spread of invasive species.

Please do not rake leaves into the lake, mow lawns into the lake, or push weeds away from your waterfront. If you cut weeds, in any manner, please remove them!

Next year we are hoping to move the public meeting off the holiday weekend, to the following weekend. Show of hands appeared favorable to the suggestion.

- **Treasurer & Membership Report—**Corinne Julian & Bill Hassoldt

Corrine went over the balances in checking and savings. She discussed the money in savings being needed for future grant obtaining and matching. Referred to the profit and loss report that was made available.

Bill discussed the membership rate of 60%, and the goal of 100%. He also clarified the need for accurate email and mailing addresses, the newsletter package, the treatment letter, and donations.

- **Update on Septic System changes in Steuben & Schuyler County**, Schuyler County –
Josh Cole

Josh discussed that fewer cottages were up for inspection this year. He reviewed the process. Grant money is still available; up to 50% (to \$10,000) for repair or replacement of failing septic systems in Schuyler County. Adding on to a home does not qualify. Wells must be over 100 ft from a septic, or have a variance from Hornell. Water sampling is also available for a fee. Metal or homemade septic tanks need to be replaced. If a home is sold, Josh must fully inspect the septic. If you pump earlier than required, let Josh know. He can inspect and adjust the next date appropriately. The majority of homes on the lakes are in full compliance. Please call Josh with any problems or questions; he is a resource and partner for lake residents. Jay added that right now Steuben County is stating that they will only apply grant money to septic systems 250 ft, or closer, to the shore.

- **Spring Newsletter**—**Terry Allison**

The spring newsletter is very expensive to mail, and more expensive to forward after being returned, so please be sure membership has the correct winter address. The supplement is only for changes to the directory. Photos or article topics are always welcomed. A member asked if the newsletter could be emailed instead of printed. Incorrect emails are also a problem, but the idea will be considered by the board.

- **Boat Parade 2024**—**Katherine Hammill**

The boat parade is July 6. All information about it will be found on the Lamoka-Waneta

Facebook page. Anyone can be in the parade, but if members want to compete, there is a digital registration form. There will be two categories: Most Patriotic, and Most Creative. There will be a number to be displayed on the boat, and a 4 criteria rubric for judging. Anyone can watch and/or vote from their docks. Katherine is looking for people to help make this parade more spicy and fun than it was previously.

- **Boater Safety updates and classes**—Steuben County [Sheriff Allard](#)/ Schuyler County [Sheriff Rumsey](#)

Staffing shortage is an issue at the sheriff department. Officers will be on the lake when they can. Someone is always on call, so call if there is a need. There are 10 part-time navigators. A \$10,000 grant was just received for navigation. It will be used for boat repairs and upgrades. The sheriffs reviewed navigation rules regarding the age of drivers, the use of alcohol, and availability of boater safety classes. Currently wake boats are not regulated. Reminder that all boater safety original certificates must be on the vessel with the driver. To find boater safety classes, go to the website.

A member asked why fishing tournaments are allowed, when there is not adequate parking on Rte 23. Call if there is a problem, and someone from the department will drive by.

Sheriffs reminded members that they are partners. Call anytime. If they are seen out on the lake, please stop next to their boat and say hello.

- **Goose Control Programs**—[Kevin Morris](#)

Don't feed the geese! 93 eggs were added this season. Anyone interested in adding or hunting, let Kevin or Gordon know, and you can be added to the permit. Members questions replied "YES!" when they were questioned if they had seen fewer geese this spring.

- **Environmental Impacts Committee**--[Calvin Barnstead](#)

Last year's clean-up went well. If members want to help this year, see Calvin after the meeting. Goal will be to remove the large beaver cache, and the resident beavers. The

cache is 5-6 feet tall, and is obstructing 30-40% of the waterway. Calvin has a 5 year volunteer permit, and a 1 year trapping/removal permit. Let Calvin know if you see any other problems.

- **Chautauqua Lake Partnership** regarding the future of Wetlands Regulation—**Calvin Barnstead**

The Freshwater Wetland Act went into the budget. It will become active in 2025. 1 million more acres of wetlands will be added. Right now both channels and the swamps are designated wetlands. We do not want any more of Lamoka or Waneta to be added to this area, so we will keep in close contact with DEC until we have something in writing. If the freshwater lake area became wetland, it would be very difficult to make any changes to waterfront areas in front of homes. To see these areas, search Tyrone, NY, shrink back, click layers, and see the wetlands. Weed removal will help keep us from being designated wetland. Right now, Article 24 Wetlands has been sent to Cornell. We want to “carve out” the freshwater lakes from this plan. If you want to help, go to the website chqlake.org and sign the electronic petition. It goes to JR Jacobson at DEC in Albany.

A member (Sandy King) asked if we had ever invited Phil Palmisono or Tom O’Mara to come to our meetings. Jay replied that it might be possible next year if we move our public meeting off Memorial Day. Sandy said she could get them here.

- **Lake Treatment June 17th, Rain date June 18th 2024— Dennis Fagan**

Dennis noted that the board works to provide so many programs/benefits to the lakes. “We are happy to do it when we see such a good turnout at the public meeting”.

Treatment will be June 17-June 18. Permits will come a day or two prior. Treated will be Lamoka- 138 acres, 32.3 gal, Waneta- 38.9 acres, 10.9 gal. ProcellaCOR is a potent herbicide. It provides adequate control of Milfoil with no need to draw down lake level. 1 week after treatment, there is no residual chemical found in the water. Goal is not to eradicate weeds.

Dennis reviewed the Lake District budget, and the amounts used for wastewater management and plant studies. 2 samples are taken from sites- 160 sites on Lamoka and 130 sites on Waneta. Milfoil found helps determine next year’s treatment. When

not enough revenue is raised, fund balances make up the difference. This year's treatment saved the district money, since there were two bidders for the job. Projected- \$150,00-173,400. 2 bids- \$131,000, \$99,800. Lower bid taken, so the fund balance is now \$140,000.

• **HABs**– Terry discussed lake level. Explained a graphic that showed finger lakes' elevations. Right now we are at 1098.7, with one gate open 6 feet.

Members now know what HABs look like, and the health dangers to self, family and pets, so just report them when they are seen. Right now there is pollen on the surface of the water. Last year Lamoka had 14 HABs after June 8. Waneta had 18 HABs after June 24. To reduce HABs, remove weeds from your property, use weed mats, and install aerators or fountains. HQAPAS20 systems seem to be working well. Several members volunteered to show their system to others, or answer questions.

cyanobacteria/HABs. **See it, Report it, AVOID it!** –Terry Fisk, (607-731-8863; terry@jtfmicroscopy.com) **Bill Hassoldt**, (607-329-2920 wfhas@icloud.com)

• **Lake Management Committee**—**Terry Fisk, Patrick O'Shaughnessy**

Patrick provided a presentation overviewing the Lake Management Plan. This plan will guide future actions of the committee. Our lake is a high priority to NYS. The committee will strive to build relationships with local leaders, and pursue funds and grants to improve water quality. 5 strategies were discussed, as well as a plan to “squeak a little louder” in the search for funding and support.

• **2024 LWLA Goals** (since the 2023 goals were not fully completed, the Board agreed to roll over the 2023 goals and added two new goals for 2024**)—**Jay White, Bill Hassoldt**

- Achieve 100% of all lake property owners as LWLA members.
- Obtain permits/grants for various activities such as cleaning the canal, goose control, etc. (This goal is ongoing and all permits are currently up to date.)
- Determine the benefits and cost of weed harvesting/biomass and other alternatives to prevent/slow down our lakes from filling in.
- **To implement the plan with Schuyler County Legislatures to return the 4% Room Tax be returned to the Lake District for the improvements and monitoring of Lamoka and Waneta Lakes, and not to the Chamber of Commerce for the promotion of Seneca Lake.
- ** Replace the Lake Level Gauge and add two other gauges. One at exit of North Canal on Waneta, the other somewhere to be determined at lower end of

Lamoka.

• **Suggestions & Concerns from LWLA Members—Jay White**

One member asked if the board was addressing the Tobahanna flowing into the lake, and providing nutrients. Jay's reply was "We're on it!"- referenced Steve Tressler and CSLAP sampling.

• **Upcoming Events:**

- **Flare Night #1 TONIGHT, May 25, 2024 @ 9:00 p.m.**
- **Boat Parade—July 6 @ 2:00 p.m.** Lamoka meets at Baptist Bible; Waneta at southeast end of the lake. (*Rain Date, Sunday, July 7 at 2:00 p.m.*)
- **Flare Night #2—July 6 @ 9:30 p.m.**
- **LWLA Golf Tournament July 13**--see Gary Gray (glgray1465@yahoo.com)
- **Rummage Sale:** Waneta Lake—July 20, Lamoka Lake, August 17, 2024
- **Pancake Breakfast**—Tyrone Town Hall, Saturday, August 3. Sign up to help out at the back table.
- **Fall Public Meeting, August 24th @ WAYNE FIRE DEPARTMENT 10:00 A.M.**
- **Flare Night #3—August 31, 2024 @ 8:30 p.m.**

Next meetings

Board of Directors—June 15, July 13, August 10, September 21, October 19, 2024 at the Tyrone Town Hall @ 10:00 a.m.

Fall Public Meeting –August 24, 2024 @ WAYNE Fire Dept. 10:00 a.m.

Thoughts not to forget, raised from above meeting:

*Do we need to provide weed photos in the newsletter again? Beth is willing to take/find photos.

*Is there a map available, or could we make a map, that showed locations on the lakes, such as Tobehanna Creek, Waneta Terrace, Red Bank Island, etc.

*Should we add Sheriff dept websites listed on our webpage?

*Should we ask Sandy King- get Phil Palmesano / Tom O'Mara to a meeting?

*Should the Lake Management Committee's power point go on the website?

Collected Survey Results- Public Septic, Water/Sewer:

47 total responses-

Lamoka- 13 yes, 6 no. Waneta- 22 yes, 6 no.